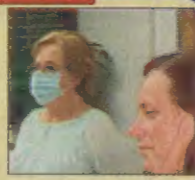


Mike Harrelson  
speaks at Elba  
QB Club  
meeting



INSIDE

PrayerWalk held  
at Elba City  
Schools



INSIDE

Elba Tigers  
open season  
with win over  
Daleville



# The Elba Clipper

Volume 125, Number 14 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, August 26, 2021 1 Section, 10 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

## Elba City Schools and Coffee County Schools implement mask mandate through Sept. 17th

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Elba City Schools and Coffee County Schools each implemented a manda-

**"This mandate is for all indoor events as well as during the day in the school building," Elba Schools superintendent Chris Moseley said. "With this mandate we will only have to send home students and staff who are positive or show symptoms [of the COVID virus]. This will keep more students in school and able to receive face-to-face instruction."**

Elba City Schools superintendent Chris Moseley said the mask order mandate for his school system is required for all students, faculty, staff, including Pre-K through 12th Grade. It also includes any visitors to the schools.

"This mandate is for all

indoor events as well as during the day in the school building," Moseley said. "With this mandate we will only have to send home students and staff who are positive or show symptoms [of the COVID virus]. This will keep more students in school and able to receive face-to-face instruction."

Coffee County Schools superintendent Kelly Cobb said the mandate for her school system, which includes Kingston School, Zion Chapel School, New Brockton Elementary School, and New Brockton High School, also requires all faculty, staff, students, and visitors on each campus to wear a face covering while indoors.

"The only exceptions to the mask requirement are while eating and drinking

or exercising in an athletic or extracurricular activity where physical distancing can be maintained," Cobb said. "The Coffee County School System does not see this as a permanent change but as a strategy to keep our students in school for face-to-face learning with their teachers and peers. The district's goal continues to be to create learning opportunities by educating students to become well-rounded and productive citizens."

As of Thursday, Aug. 19, when the temporary face mask mandate was announced for Coffee County Schools, Cobb said the number of positive COVID-19 cases had reached a total at Kingston School of 15, New Brockton

See MASKS, Page 3



**SIMMONS STREET CULVERT WORK CONTINUES...**During the Elba Water and Electric Board meeting Monday night, Aug. 23, city clerk Sally Bane said the culvert replacement project on Simmons Street (as shown above) had progressed to the point that the pipes are functional if inclement weather were to strike the area. An excessive amount of rain over the past few months has delayed the completion of the project, but Bane said the good news is the new, larger culvert pipes are in place and functioning. As soon as the area dries out, officials hope the remaining work can be completed to bring that project to a close and remove any hazards on Simmons Street.

## Coffee County EMA director says COVID-19 surge remains high

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Coffee County EMA director James Brown said late last week that positivity rates for latest surge in COVID-19 cases remains very high, showing widespread community transmission.

"We have seen a 30 percent climb in hospitalizations from our last report two weeks ago," Brown said. "Our last update on

Aug. 6th, we had 1,923 in Alabama hospitals due to COVID. As of today [Friday, Aug. 20], we have 2,764 - a little over a 30 percent gain in this two-week time period, but better than the doubling we were seeing two weeks ago."

He said the state continues to inch closer to the Jan. 11th peak of 3,084 hospitalized. He said hospital staffs remain stressed and believe they will surpass the original peak number in the near future due to infections realized 2-3 weeks ago.

"Hospitals in the local area are still at or over capacity for medical beds," Brown said. "Our real issue is Intensive Care Units [ICU] with those being almost 30 percent over capacity in our region. Surge plans for use of personnel and other hospital areas are being implemented."

He said cancellation of elective surgeries has been implemented or is currently being considered by many local hospitals.

"We have seen an increase in calls for assistance with personnel and resources, and according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services [HHS], 35 of 117 hospitals in the state are predicting critical staffing shortages within a week [as of Aug. 20th]."

Brown further noted that deaths had begun to climb again in the state due to COVID. As of last Friday, he said there had been 155 COVID-related deaths reported in Alabama over the last two-week period.

## COVID-19 surges in Alabama children

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) reports a significant increase in pediatric cases of COVID-19 at this time of year, compared to the same time in 2020.

Coupled with this increase in cases, ADPH notes that Alabama has at least 50 children hospitalized statewide and has recently had at least 9 children on ventilators in a single day.

ADPH pediatrician, Dr. Karen Landers, states, "I am very concerned that the children of Alabama are experiencing more illness and hospitalizations as a result of COVID-19. Children can and do contract and spread COVID-19 disease. COVID-19 can be a very serious illness in children with at least 6 percent of children experiencing long-term consequences of this disease. Further, at least 113 children in our state have suffered from Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome of Childhood (MIS-C), a severe illness that occurs after COVID disease and affects several organs, including the brain, heart, lungs, and kidneys, among other body systems." "Delta variant accounts for most of the SARS-CoV-2 cases in Alabama, based upon surveillance. Delta can replicate more quickly and infect earlier than previous SARS-CoV-2 variants. These factors are fueling the surge of COVID-19 among Alabama's children," notes Dr. Benjamin Estrada, Director, Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Professor of Pediatrics, University of South Alabama College of Medicine.

To combat this surge in disease, ADPH recommends all children ages 12 and above be vaccinated against COVID-19 with the approved vaccine product. ADPH recently issued School Guidance that any child who has COVID-19 disease should remain in home isolation for 10 days in order to prevent spreading the virus to other students, staff and teachers.

ADPH further recommends, as part of its Isolation and Quarantine Guidance, that close contacts home quarantine unless they meet certain exceptions. Exceptions are having had COVID-19 disease within 90 days of exposure, fully vaccinated status, and, in the K-12 classroom, correct and appropriate

Please See CHILDREN, Page 3

## Coffee County Commission approves incentive for employees vaccinated against COVID-19

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Coffee County Commissioners voted Monday, Aug. 23, to offer an incentive to county employees showing proof of vaccination against COVID-19.

County administrator Rod Morgan said the commission had discussed at its most recent work session to offer a \$400 one-time payment incentive to all employees that provide proof of vaccination within the next 90 days (upon approval of the incentive). He said this would include those already vaccinated

### NOTICE:

Coffee County's residential garbage collection will operate as normal on Monday, Sept. 6th. There will be no delay in pickup services due to the Labor Day holiday.

that provide proof and those who get vaccinated - all showing proper documentation of the vaccine administration over the approved 90-day timeframe.

Morgan said this \$400 incentive for employees could be paid with American Rescue Plan funds the county had received from the federal government.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jimmy Jones with a second from Commissioner Dean Smith to approve the vaccine incentive plan. The motion passed with no opposition.

After voting on the matter, Commissioner Jim

Thompson said he wanted to stress this is not intended to force anyone to be vaccinated.

"This is just something we came up with as a commission to maybe give them a nudge to get vaccinated," Thompson said. "It is a choice for each person. We are not forcing anyone to do anything."

He added that he, himself, is in the process of going through the vaccination process currently. He said he was probably the last of the commissioners to do so.

"It took me a year and a half to figure it out with the help of James Brown and Grant Lyons [Coffee County EMA director and deputy director]."

In other business, commissioners approved a request from county engineer Marty Lentz to allow him to proceed with ordering new equipment that would be

See CCC, Page 3

### News Brief:

During the Elba City Council meeting held Monday evening, Aug. 23, Police Chief Leslie Hussey provided an update on the status of his department.

Since the Aug. 9th meeting where Hussey reported he would be down four officers as of Aug. 17, that number has now grown to down five officers following another resignation. The chief further noted he still had another officer out due to a shoulder injury, and another is out due to COVID-related issues.

He again said he was continually looking for persons to add to the depleting department, but it was not an easy task. Hussey encouraged council members to consider looking a potentially utilizing American Rescue Plan funds from the federal government to help pay for officers.

Council members listened to the chief's requests, but no further comments were made.

## Area Happenings

**A CHAMPIONSHIP RING CEREMONY** will be held Thursday, Aug. 26, at 6 p.m., inside the Elba High School auditorium for Elba High School's 2021 AHSAA Class 1A/2A State Champion Golf Team. The ring presentation ceremony is open to the public to attend.

**THE 2011 ELBA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM** will be recognized and honored Friday, Aug. 27th. Coach Scott Rials - the head coach of the 2011 team - will be the guest speaker of the Elba Quarterback Club lunch meeting, beginning at 11:30 a.m. This meeting is held at the Elba Country Club. The team also will be recognized during halftime of the Elba vs. Opp football game that night at Tiger Stadium.

**THE COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION** will hold the first public hearing to present the system-wide budget for Fiscal Year 2022 on Thursday, Sept. 2, at 12 noon, during a special board meeting. The second public hearing will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 2, during a regular board meeting. These meetings will be at the Coffee County Board of Education office, located on Reddoch Hill in Elba, Ala.

**THE COFFEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING** scheduled for Aug. 19th has been rescheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 15, at 10 a.m., in the Coffee County Community Room, 1065 E. McKinnon Street, New Brockton, Ala. Limited seating is available so call 334-894-5581X3 if planning to attend.

He said Coffee County's COVID-related deaths had climbed by seven from his last report two weeks prior.

"We expect this number to grow as hospitalization numbers climb," Brown said. "The deaths we are seeing now are from cases confirmed as many as six to seven weeks ago."

A tiny bright spot in this COVID update from the EMA director was that new cases confirmed seems to have slowed a bit over the past couple of weeks. He said the trend over the previous month had been a doubling or tripling of new cases every two week, but that was down to a 20 percent increase in the state over the last two weeks.

Brown said that is still too many, but it is good to see a potential slowing in the number of new cases.

"Our current average is just almost 2,509 cases per day." Locally for Coffee County, Brown said due to discrepancies and delayed reporting of cases, his office is now concentrating on positivity rate to give officials an idea of community transmission.

"These numbers are better aligned between various sites and agencies thus we feel they are more accurate for our planning purposes," he said. "The current positivity rate for Coffee County is 35.9 percent. Ideally, we would like this below 5 percent. We still have a very high community transmission rate."

Brown said the vaccination rate in Coffee County has gone up slightly over the past few weeks.

"Last report, we had 32.23 percent receiving at least one dose and 25.31 percent completing their vaccination."

See EMA, Page 3

## EDITORIAL

### BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

*"All truth passes through three stages. First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently opposed. Third, it is accepted as being self-evident."* - Arthur Schopenhauer

We hope the above means that soon society will accept the COVID vaccines as a good thing and stop repeating the dumb, wild misinformation being spread on social media and by word of mouth.

The feds have officially approved one of the several COVID vaccines that have been on the market for months. We have wondered exactly why it took so long for this formality, but now it is done. Americans who have not taken either of the offered vaccines because "they are not approved by the FDA" can now get in line for the shots . . . or find some other excuse for not taking them (like "I am afraid of needles"). Well, we also dislike needles in our arm but have an even greater fear (almost panic level) of COVID putting us down for weeks – or worse – being one of those who loses the battle and leaves the hospital and goes directly to the funeral home. Our love and respect for our friends and their wellbeing prompts our fanatical preaching to "get the shots." We have already lost more friends and relatives to this bug than we like to admit. A bunch of others who survived are still dealing with the terrible after-effects of the COVID bug. Nowhere in our weekly writings have you seen any recommendation to join in the fad of taking that \*\*&^%\$ horse medicine for COVID . . . even though many of the social media experts are praising the effectiveness of the horse pills being the magical cure for COVID. It reminds us of Hadacol elixir that was a cure-all liquid popular in the 1950s and the disclaimer joke, "It is not the perfect cure for everything. A 96 year old woman died yesterday in spite of the elixir . . . but they saved her newborn baby."

If you are not already too overly mad with our COVID comments above, let this Monday morning statistic in the New York Times sink into your brain. "Over the past week, about 1,000 Americans per day have died of COVID; vaccination would probably have saved more than 95 percent of them." That last bit about the 95% prompts us to fall on our knees and beg God's forgiveness.

The number of American soldiers killed in Afghanistan in the past 20 years is painful to think about. We saw a list w/pictures of Alabama soldiers killed in the 20-year war and lingered over each one, trying to imagine the emotions of their loved ones at the news of their death and again at today's news and pictures of the U. S. ongoing clumsy exit from the country. They deserve better, as do the Afghan citizens who actually believed the American's promises.

It is disturbing to read about the massive increase in the United States' debt load. This year the debt increased from about 75% of the GNP (total national income) to a bunch above the GNP and it is still climbing! This makes us more than a little bit worried about our nation's financial health. It also puts us in sympathy with the Washington lawmakers who are balking at approving trillions in additional national debt for projects that frankly are largely good things to do . . . IF you have the money (which we don't have). Washington, please don't put this additional debt on our grandchildren!

Be safe, wear your mask, social distance, wash your hands AND get the shot(s)!

#### A Note of Thanks

We wish to thank all our family and friends for the support during the sickness and loss of our loved one. Your visits, prayers, cards, food, flowers, and kind words will be forever remembered.

The Family of Wallace Rushing

As first vaccine is fully approved by FDA

### Get vaccinated for COVID-19 as soon as possible

All too few Alabamians realize the seriousness of infection with COVID-19 and have not made the decision to be vaccinated or have postponed getting the free vaccine that will save them, their families and communities from this devastating virus.

Hospitalizations and deaths from COVID-19 are rising rapidly, and vaccines are highly effective.

Now that U.S. regulators have given full approval to the Pfizer mRNA vaccine for individuals age 16 and older, those people who have delayed scheduling their COVID-19 vaccinations should have increased confidence to act. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has rigorous scientific standards for safety, effectiveness and manufacturing quality.

Retail pharmacies and other providers in more than a thousand locations throughout the state have

ample supplies of COVID-19 vaccine on hand at no charge with or without insurance coverage. While appointments are preferred due to the availability of staff, many pharmacies welcome walk-ins. The vaccine also continues to be available under emergency use authorization for adolescents ages 12 through 15 years of age and for the administration of a third dose in certain immunocompromised individuals.

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) emphasizes that there are two other safe and effective vaccines available. In addition to the Pfizer vaccine, the Moderna and Johnson and Johnson vaccines are authorized for adults age 18 and older. County health departments currently give the Moderna vaccine, but other providers such as hospitals and pharmacies offer the Pfizer vaccine and may also be giving the

Moderna and Johnson and Johnson vaccines. Please check <https://www.vaccines.gov> or contact the provider to check which vaccines are offered before scheduling your appointment. While appointments are preferred due to the availability of staff, many pharmacies welcome walk-ins.

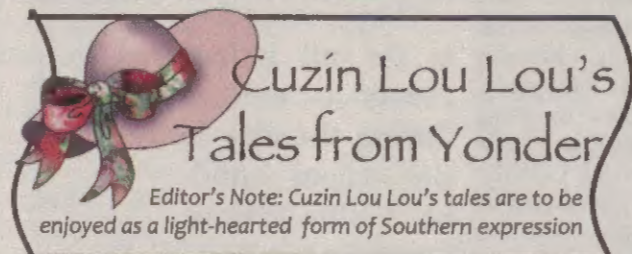
State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris said, "We have high levels of disease transmission in every county throughout the state. COVID-19 vaccination will help keep our communities safe and our children in school."

He added that for those individuals who have only

received one dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines and have delayed completing the two-dose series, it is not too late to get their second dose.

Alabamians can receive a COVID-19 vaccine through the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program at select Costco, CVS, Sam's Club, Walgreens and Walmart locations, among others, across the state.

For information about COVID-19, visit <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/index.html> for specific pharmacy locations, hours and vaccine products available, visit <https://www.vaccines.gov/>



Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

Cuzin Lou Lou and Sister ventured across the state line last week to visit a mobile museum of sorts, and it was better than anticipated! Lou Lou's longtime friend Precious P joined them for this exciting trip, and one thing is for sure...when those three get together it is nothing short of a riot!

The three gals headed to Atlanta, GA for this fun trip, and stayed overnight in a suburb of Atlanta...Sandy Springs. The fun started almost as soon as the three got checked in to their hotel for the night... Precious P is fun to joke around with, so, Lou Lou got started quickly. P was giving the hotel room a 'security sweep' when Lou Lou noticed one of them had left a slight mark on the mirror already.

When P asked if anything looked 'out of place', Lou Lou said nothing other than the "something that was breathing on the mirror, making its' presence known to them!"

Well...that got P going fast and in a hurry. The next 15 minutes were spent trying to determine if the mirror was a "two-way" mirror or not. Of course, it was not, but that did not keep Lou Lou from stretching out the torture trying to convince P it was either that or there was a ghost in the room.

Sister finally came to P's rescue proving that it was nothing to be concerned with. P made a swat at Lou Lou telling her "how bad" she was being, but they all still laughed at the whole affair.

Next morning, the adventures started almost immediately. There was the playing of Sister's recording to prove to Lou Lou that she snores... Lou Lou still thinks Sister makes it up, but P took Sister's side and agreed there were snoring noises coming from Lou Lou's direction. Lou Lou is yet to be totally convinced!

After everyone was ready for the day's adventure, the gals headed over to the nearby Cheesecake Factory for lunch! No explanation is ever needed for anyone who has enjoyed the yum-

miness of the Cheesecake Factory. It is exquisite!!

The three had been seated just long enough to receive their waters, tea, and complimentary bread when all of a sudden the fire alarm went off! A recorded voice directed those inside the building to exit...everyone just froze! No one could decide if this was real or not. Even the employees kept looking at one another in confusion.

The alarm kept going, so, Lou Lou, Sister, and P reluctantly got up and headed for the door. They, along with others obeying the fire alarm, were met by the hostess at the door. She assured them everything was okay, and they could return to their seat.

This made Sister happy... she was a bit ticked off to be forced to leave her bread! As they sat back down, she said if it went off again, she would be taking the bread with her next time.

It indeed was a false alarm and all returned to normal...well, until about 20 minutes later when it happened again! This time, Lou Lou refused to move...she was not leaving her cheesecake!

Again, it was a false alarm. Lou Lou is convinced some friends back home in Yonder who were non-too-happy they were missing out on cheesecake did some voodoo or something just to mess with her and her cheesecake enjoyment! They failed, however! It was scrumptious and worth every bite and every calorie! Sister and P argued that Lou Lou doesn't get the full-effect of Cheesecake Factory's "cheesecake" because she only ever orders the original topped with strawberries while they always try one of the 50 other options. Lou Lou's argument is, "why mess with perfection?"

After lunch, it was time to visit the Friends Experience in Atlanta. This is a museum of sorts dedicated to the television show Friends. It was a fantastic hour-long tour where Lou Lou, Sister, and Precious P walked down memory lane as they recalled favorite episodes and took relived iconic scenes!

Lou Lou really felt like she was on the set of the show as they moved from room to room, and the staff was so helpful in taking pictures as the gals enacted some of their favorite Friends moments!

It was a quick trip, but memories were made that Lou Lou, Sister, and Precious P will never forget. So worth it! Oh yeah, even though all three are vaccinated against COVID, they wore their masks as suggested by the venue, and still enjoyed themselves immensely!

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling!

### Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, between Tuesday, August 17, 2021, and Monday, August 23, 2021, conducted the following activity:

**Tuesday, Aug. 17** – Animal complaint with impound reported at 1243 Neil Grantham Dr (9:23 a.m.); Animal complaint reported on Old Samson Rd (2:27 p.m.); ATV complaint reported on Farris Ave (6:38 p.m.). There were four traffic stops on this date resulting in three written warnings, and one citation.

**Wednesday, Aug. 18** – Animal complaint reported at 14593 Hwy 84 (8:00 a.m.); Harassment reported at 2738 Hickman Ave (11:26 a.m.); Theft of property reported at 315 Sawyer St (5:05 p.m.); Domestic complaint with impound reported at 233 Dr Roberts Dr (5:30 p.m.); Burglary reported at 335 Brunson Circle (9:08 p.m.); Report of shots fired on Cedar Lane Dr (9:49 p.m.). No traffic stops recorded on this date.

**Thursday, Aug. 19** – Suspicious circumstances reported at 1033 Morrow Ave (4:16 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1282 Ann St (5:44 p.m.); Domestic complaint reported on County Rd 420 (8:10 p.m.); Runaway juvenile reported on Private Rd 1107 (8:16 p.m.). There were five traffic stops recorded on this date resulting in

three citations, and two written warnings.

**Friday, Aug. 20** – Theft of property reported at 1021 Martin Luther King Dr (6:51 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 705 Putnam St (7:48 a.m.); Domestic complaint reported at 380 County Rd 407 (1:41 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 971 Neil Grantham Dr (3:24 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported on the Troy Hwy (5:32 p.m.); Reckless driver reported in area of Hwy 125/Hwy 84 – warning issued (8:57 p.m.). There were two traffic stops recorded on this date resulting in one written warning, and one arrest.

**Saturday, Aug. 21** – Domestic complaint reported at 1237 Jones Circle (8:09 a.m.); Animal complaint with impound reported on Hwy 125 (2:30 p.m.); Domestic complaint reported at 626 Mullins Circle (7:07 p.m.); Trespassing reported at 410 Plant Ave (7:19 p.m.); Suspicious person reported on Hwy 203 (7:48 p.m.); Disturbance reported at 410 Plant Ave (9:34 p.m.). There were four traffic stops recorded on this date resulting in two written warnings, one citation, and one arrest.

**Sunday, Aug. 22** – Theft of property reported at 329 Sollie Dr (1:15 a.m.); Suspicious person reported at 990 Hwy 203 (6:40 a.m.); Theft of property reported at 111 Factory Ave (3:01 p.m.); Shoplifter reported at 911 Farris Ave (3:34 p.m.); Trespassing reported at 154 Yelverton Ave (7:44 p.m.); Disturbance reported at 615 Jackson Ave (10:05 p.m.). There were five traffic stops recorded on this date resulting in one verbal warning, two citations, and two written warnings.

**Monday, Aug. 23** – Assault reported at 1176 Neil Grantham Dr (8:19 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 315 Sawyer St (9:15 p.m.). There were no traffic stops recorded on this date.

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## MASKS

(Continued from Page One)

Elementary School of 42, New Brockton High School of 20, and Zion Chapel School of 78. Due to this, she said the number of quarantines at Kinston was at 64, New Brockton Elementary School at 85, New Brockton High School at 72, and Zion Chapel School at 230.

"These totals are calculated from Aug. 2nd to today [Aug. 19th] and include faculty, staff, and students," Cobb said. "Additionally, some of these have already returned to school."

Moseley said the number of positive rates for Elba City Schools had not been too alarming, but he said too many students were being sent home for quarantine. Therefore, he said the important thing was to keep as many students as possible on campus for the face-to-face learning, and the mask mandate would help to do that.

Each superintendent said the wearing of masks would keep students from having to be sent home "just for quarantine" due to a close contact. By requiring facial coverings to be worn, they said only those testing positive and those showing symptoms would have to be sent home.

Those quarantined prior

to the start of the mask mandates that remained symptom-free were allowed to return to school Monday, Aug. 23, when the temporary mask mandates began.

"It is very important for everyone to wear a mask appropriately at all times, except when eating, exercising or being outdoors," Moseley said. "We appreciate everyone's cooperation and patience as we continue to navigate this pandemic and keep our students in school."

Moseley added that those unable to wear a facial covering due to health issues, could call the school nurse or principal and supply adequate documentation from a physician to be exempt from the mask mandate.

Superintendent Cobb also asked for the community's support, patience, and understanding. Like Moseley, she said the schools are making a diligent effort to keep everyone safe while making sure the students are getting face-to-face learning and engagement they need.

Both superintendents said a decision would be made prior to Sept. 17th on whether the mask mandate should be extended or cancelled.

## EMA

(Continued from Page One)

cinations," he said. "Today [Aug. 20th], we have 34.5 percent with at least one dose and 26.3 percent completing their vaccinations."

Brown said his office continues to encourage citizens to get vaccinated.

"Our high percentage of positive tests suggests high coronavirus infection rates due to high transmission in the community," he said. "This suggests that more testing should probably be done to identify infections early so infected people can quarantine and keep it from passing between groups. It also tells us that use of non-pharmaceutical intervention should be increased, to include washing your hands, social distancing, and wearing a mask."

Brown further said the

community needs to work together to quickly reduce the number of people who need hospital intervention.

"If we can't get the public to avoid catching the virus, we need to treat them before they need to be hospitalized," he said. "There are many home remedies people have tried with varying degrees of success. However, we are recommending expansion of our capability to administer monoclonal antibody therapy, which seems to reduce hospitalization by about 70 percent."

Again, Brown strongly suggested hand washing, social distancing, face mask wearing, and getting the vaccine as ways to reduce the spread of the COVID virus.

## CHILDREN

(Continued from Page 1)

use with 3 or more feet of distancing.

• Between August 1 and August 12, 2020, Alabama had 1,356 reports of COVID-19 in the age range of 5 to 17 years. In this same date range in 2021, there were 6,181 reports among 5- to 17-year-olds.

• In the past four weeks, 6.2 percent of cases of COVID-19 in Alabama have been among children 0-4 years of age while 8.1 percent have been in the 5 to 17 age range.

• The current percent positive rate in persons 5-17 in Alabama is higher than the state average, with at least 27 percent of SARS-CoV-2 tests in children being positive.

These numbers are based on data reported to

## CCC

(Continued from Page 1)

included in the next budget year. This includes ordering five new dump trucks and two new right-of-way mowers.

Also, commissioners gave approval for Lentz to surplus and offer for sale on GovDeals.com a 1999 GMC 3500 flatbed truck that is no longer used by the county highway department.

Coffee County E911 chairman Dean Blair encouraged all citizens to keep first responders in their prayers during the latest COVID-19 surge. He said these first responders are on the frontline and exposed to the virus daily as they assist those in need.

The next Coffee County Commission meeting will be Monday, Sept. 13, at 9 a.m., in the community room of the county complex in New Brockton.

Alabama's electronic disease surveillance system.

While urging all parents and guardians to listen to and read factual information from their pediatrician or other healthcare provider, Landers states, "All Alabamians need to take the threat of this virus more seriously than ever before and implement all preventive and mitigation measures to protect the children of Alabama."

## Elba W&amp;E Board awards contract for repainting of water tanks

During the Elba Water and Electric Board meeting held Monday evening, Aug. 23, a resolution awarding the tank repainting and generators project. Upon recommendation of project engineer, DeAnn Grantham of Southern Engineering Solutions Inc., the board award the bid contract to U.S. Tank Inc. in the amount of \$1,265,814 contingent upon USDA approval.

This includes the repainting of water tanks across the city and generator replacement and is part of an ongoing water system improvement project in Elba.

Also, during the meeting, the board voted to utilize \$30,000 coming to the board from PowerSouth, along with some additional 50/50 match funds to purchase two "good" used trucks — one for the water department and one for the electric department. The board authorized a purchase of up to \$40,000 for the trucks.

## Obituaries

Death notices updated regularly on our website at &lt;www.elba-clipper.com&gt;

## WILLIAM "BILLY" ALLEN MARX

Mr. William "Billy" Allen Marx, age 59, a resident of Elba, Ala., died

Thursday, Aug. 19, 2021, at his home.

Graveside services were held Saturday, Aug. 21, 2021, from the Woodland Grove Community Cemetery with Rev. Donnie Marler officiating and Hayes Funeral Home directing. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Woodland Grove Community Cemetery Fund C/O P. O. Box 681 Elba, AL 36323.

Survivors include his sisters: Judi (Billy) Stinson, Enterprise, Ala., and Juanita Flowers, Elba; nephew: Wade (Cindy) Flowers, Elba; nieces: Brenda (Ken) Smith, and Emily (Chase) Davis, both of Elba; great-nephew: Carter Nicholson, Elba; great-nieces: Kali Nicholson, and Jaymee Flowers, both of Elba; and many other extended family members.

## CAROL VAUGHAN KENDRICK

Mrs. Carol Vaughan Kendrick, age 70, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., died Saturday, Aug. 14, 2021, at Aspire Physical Recovery Center of West Alabama.

Carol was raised in Elba, Ala. and graduated from the University of Alabama where she was a member of the Chi Omega sorority. Her love for art paved her career path as an educator of nearly 40 years at Eastwood Middle School, Shelton State Community College and ultimately the University of Alabama where she taught Applied Design. She received many accolades for her work including the Outstanding Educator Award from the Tombigbee Girl Scout Council. She spent long hours volunteering for the Junior League including painting sets for the Children's Theatre, to countless pieces of art for First United Methodist Church, to preparing the scenes for the Harlequins Mardi Gras Society, to commissioned paintings, calligraphy, and pen and ink drawings, to donating her artwork to charity auctions.

A memorial service was held Friday, Aug. 20, 2021, at First United Methodist Church, Tuscaloosa, with Dr. Clinton Hubbard Jr. and Rev. Kay Mutert officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to First United Methodist

Church, 800 Greensboro Ave., Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 or West Alabama Humane Society, 2430 36th St., Northport, AL 35473.

Carol was preceded in death by her father, Oscar Vaughan Jr., and her husband, John Frank Kendrick Jr.

Survivors include her mother: Betty Caldwell Vaughan; daughter: Kelle Kendrick Masters (Dayne); son: John Frank Kendrick III; brother: Murry Caldwell Vaughan (Ann); sister: Vicki Vaughan McGehee (Charles); grandchildren: Addison Elaine Masters, David Haynes Masters III and Anna Mills Masters.

## GLORIA J. WASHBURN

Mrs. Gloria J. Washburn, age 72, a resident of Elba, Ala., died Friday, Aug. 20, 2021, at Medical Center Enterprise due to complications of COVID-19.

In accordance with her wishes, no public services will be held at this time. A completed obituary including survivors be added soon. Hayes Funeral Home of Elba is serving the Washburn family.

## JAMES "JIMMY" EDGAR SMITH JR.

Mr. James "Jimmy" Edgar Smith Jr., age 70, a resident of Elba, Ala., died Wednesday, Aug. 18, 2021, at his daughter's home in Opp, Ala.

In accordance with his wishes, no formal services will be held. Hayes Funeral Home of Elba served the Smith family.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Debbie Smith; mother, Evelyn Jane Smith; and father, James Edgar Smith Sr. Survivors include his sons: Jason (Joli) Smith, Dothan, Ala., and Jamie (Sandra) Smith, Andalusia, Ala.; daughter: Sonya (Ken) Walker; sisters: Susan Marler, Elba, Cindy Brown, Enterprise, Ala., and Diane Duncan, Elba; five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Willie Henderson Jr., of Opp, Ala., died Saturday, Aug. 7, 2021.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Aug. 14, 2021, at Coleman Funeral Home, Elba, Ala.

Willie was born in Coffee County to Clare Henderson and late Willie A. Henderson Sr. on March 3, 1969.

Survivors include his spouse: Tia Henderson;

children: LeAnna Henderson, DeVante Henderson, Tatyana Henderson, Telazia Henderson; step-children: Christian Lee and Tiava Denmon; and three sisters: Connie Buckley, Patricia Dixon (Sammie), Vera Marsh.

## ZACHARY COON

Mr. Zachary Coon died suddenly Thursday, Aug. 5, 2021, at Banner University Medical Center in Phoenix, Ariz.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Aug. 21, 2021, from the Chapel of Coleman Funeral Home, Elba, Ala.

Zachary was born on July 27, 1992 to Stephanie Siler Williams and Daniel Coon.

He was preceded in death by his grandfathers: AJ Henderson, and Clifford (CL) Coon; and an uncle, Van Lewis Coon Sr.

Survivors include his parents: Stephanie Siler Williams, and Daniel Coon, both of Opp, Ala.; step-father: Phillip Williams, Samson, Ala.; his children: Devonta Coon (Tana Smith), Opp, and Zachariah Coon, Phoenix; four sisters: Andrea Williams, Xzandrea Williams, Casandra Williams, all of Opp, and Megan Smith, Killeen, Texas; three brothers: Deangelo Rogers, Andalusia, Ala., Andre Salter and Nekio Lane, both of Opp; grandmothers: Margaret Henderson and Margie Nell Coon, both of Opp; six aunts: Victoria Siler Nosa, Opp, Sabrina Reed and Regina Reed, both of Elba, Sherella Johnson, Samson, Kimberly Coon Daniels, River Falls, Ala., and Alice Kelley, Enterprise, Ala.; six uncles: Anthony James Siler Jr., and Travis Coon, both of Opp, Drexel Coon, Brantley, Ala., Mickey Reed, Fredrick Reed and Jeffery Reed, all of Elba, and Timothy Kelley, Enterprise; special cousins: Kayla Sigers and Shayla Sigers, both of Opp, and Van Lewis (VJ) Coon Jr. of Killen; godmother:

Candace Shivers, Dothan, Ala.; godparents: Lenzell Crittenden and Onchelle Crittenden, Opp; along with three nieces, one nephew, five great aunts, seven great uncles, two great great-aunts, and a host of family and friends.

## TEMPESTT JAMES

Ms. Tempestt James, of Enterprise, Ala., died Friday, Aug. 6, 2021.

Funeral services were held Friday, Aug. 20, 2021, at Southside Church of Christ, Enterprise, with Coleman Funeral Home of Enterprise directing.

## LUCILLE PIPPIN JONES

Mrs. Lucille Pippin Jones, age 96, a former resident of Elba, Ala., died

Friday, Aug. 20, 2021, at the Gadsden Health & Rehab Center in Gadsden, Ala.

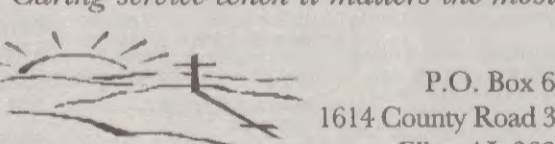
Graveside services were held Sunday, Aug. 22, 2021, at Meadowlawn Memorial Park with her son, Joel Jones, officiating. Burial followed under the direction of Hayes Funeral Home of Elba.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ruben S. Jones; and by a daughter, Janie Amberson; along with her parents, Cora and S.S. Pippin.

Survivors include her sons: Joel Henry Jones, Pell City, Ala., and Ruben Dewayne (Jo Anne) Jones, Elba; granddaughters: Leigh Ann (Ricardo) Medina, Dothan, Ala., Melissa (Bobby) Bowden, Elba, Tammy Brown, Gadsden, and Camille (Matt) Whaley, Arab, Ala.; five great-grandchildren, one great-grandchild; her half brother: Kenneth Pippin, Charlotte, NC; and a sister: Merle Boswell, Lebanon, Ill.

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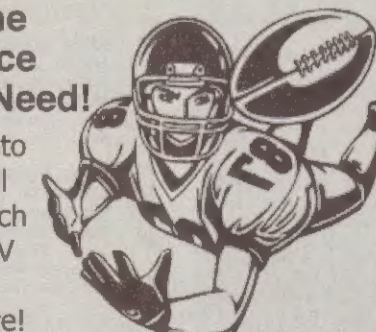
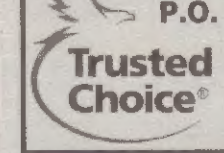
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## Ask Heath

Heath Wyrosdick, Funeral Director/Embalmer

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When People Say the Wrong Thing

Following a loss, you will find many well-meaning people say things that are meant to be comforting but are actually very hurtful. They want to establish closeness.

Often people say things like "I know what you're going through" or "I know how you feel." Phrases like this can feel like the person is turning the conversation back to themselves. Or perhaps you think, "No, my situation is totally different. You have NO idea how I feel." However, people often use these statements to show support and let you know you are not alone.

They may be uncomfortable with grief. Unfortunately, our society does not talk much about death and grief. As a result, many people don't know what to say to someone who is grieving. Instead, they fall back on common cliches when speaking to the griever.

They want to comfort you. Following your loss, those who love you will want to try to help. It's not that they don't want you to grieve, they simply see you hurting and want to find a way to help you "feel better."

As a result, they may say things like "At least she lived a good long life." They don't understand that there isn't anything they can do to take away your pain.

Here are some tips on how to handle the insensitive comments. Ask yourself what the person was trying to say.

Try to understand why the comment hurt. Think of a response. For example, if someone says, "at least your mother is in a better place" you can respond "It doesn't matter where she is, no matter what I will never stop missing her."

Trust your instincts. Everyone grieves differently. You alone know how you should be grieving. Don't feel like you must follow anyone else's timetable.

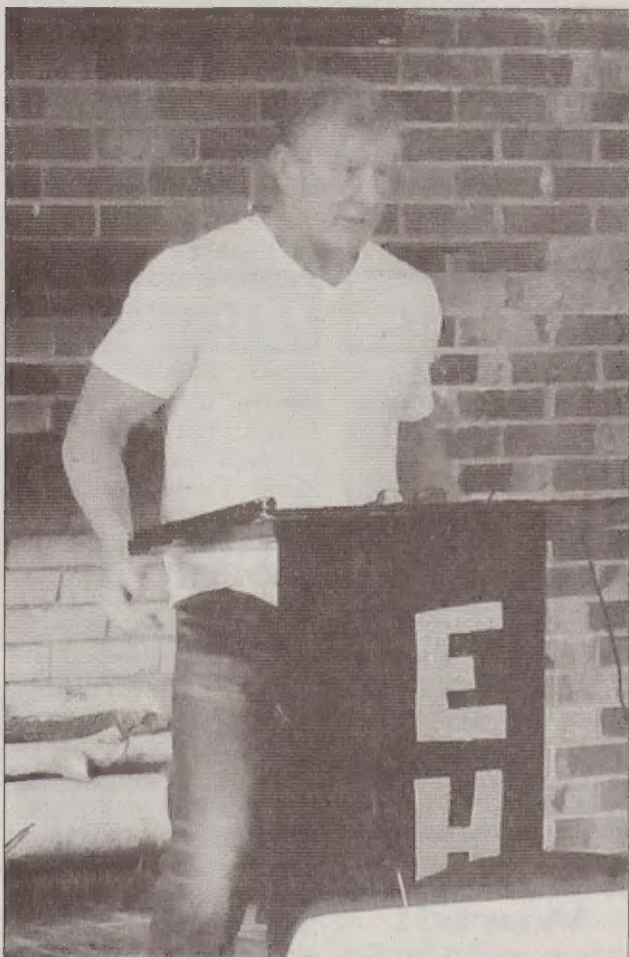
Give yourself time and space. Don't rush into anything that doesn't feel right. While you want to make sure you don't become isolated, it's OK to skip social events or leave them early if you don't feel up to attending.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayesth@hayesfuneralhome.net

431 East Davis Elba, Alabama 36323 (334) 897-2225



## LIFESTYLES



**ELBA QUARTERBACK CLUB "GAME DAY" MEETING...**The Elba Quarterback Club opened the new football season with its first "Game Day" lunch meeting last Friday, Aug. 20, at the Elba Country Club. The guest speaker for the meeting was Mike Harrelson (pictured above). The club holds the "Game Day" lunch meetings each Friday of the football season beginning at 11:30 a.m. Lunch can be ordered from the Elba Country Club's kitchen. This Friday, Aug. 27, the guest speaker will be former coach Scott Rials as Elba celebrates the 2011 State Championship team. Rials was the head coach of that team. The team also will be honored at the football game.

#### CHILD FIND ACTIVITIES FOR ELBA CITY SCHOOLS

The Elba City School System is in the process of identifying all persons with disabilities; birth-21 years who are not enrolled in an educational setting.

Parents/guardians of a child with disabilities or those who know of anyone who would benefit from the services, contact the Special Education Coordinator's office at Elba City Board of Education at 897-3000 Ext. 104.

It is important that all persons with disabilities be identified so appropriate services can be provided.



**STATE CHAMPIONS RECOGNIZED AT ELBA BOE MEETING...**The 2021 Class 1A/2A State Champion Golf Team from Elba High School was recognized last Thursday evening, Aug. 19, during the monthly Elba Board of Education meeting. The board thanked the team for its great representation of Elba City Schools and congratulated all members on their success. Those pictured above include (from left): Coach Mark Wicker, Collin Sauls, Peyton McCart, Paxton Wise, Carson Wise, and Superintendent Chris Moseley. Not pictured is 2021 team member John Martin Wilson.

#### Alabama Department of Public Health recommends additional COVID-19 vaccine doses for certain people with weakened immune systems

People with weakened immune systems are now eligible for an additional dose of Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine following a primary mRNA vaccine series to help prevent serious and possibly life-threatening COVID-19.

Health officials are not recommending booster vaccine doses for the general public and have not addressed the need for additional doses following the Johnson and Johnson (J&J) vaccine but is continuing to review the need for booster doses in this population. A third dose of Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine is not a booster dose but is an additional dose for people in whom the initial response to the vaccine series was insufficient.

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) follows the guidance of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding all vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccine. ADPH

has notified Alabama healthcare providers about these recommendations and will implement additional third-dose vaccines as outlined by these experts.

Moderately to severely immunocompromised people make up only about 3 percent of U.S. adults; however, they represent 40 to 44 percent of people hospitalized with COVID-19. Vulnerable people who may benefit from an additional vaccine dose include those with medical conditions or who are receiving treatment associated with moderate to severe immune compromise with at least one of the following conditions:

- Active or recent treatment for cancer - solid tumor and blood malignancies
- Receipt of solid organ or recent hematopoietic stem cell transplants
- Severe primary immunodeficiency
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids, alkylating agents, anti-

tubolites, tumor-necrosis blockers, and other biologic agents that may suppress immune response

• Persons with chronic medical conditions such as asplenia and chronic renal disease which may be associated with varying degrees of immune deficiency

Persons seeking additional vaccine doses are advised to consult their healthcare provider who can provide them with a prescription for a 3rd mRNA dose of Pfizer or Moderna or alternatively can present to a COVID-19 vaccination site and self-attest that they fall in this eligible population. The additional dose of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine should be administered at least 28 days after completion of the primary mRNA COVID-19 vaccine series. The additional dose should be the same vaccine product as the initial COVID-19 vaccine series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna).

There is not enough data at this time to determine whether immunocompromised people who received J&J's Janssen

Projects recognized at annual Main Street Alabama awards program

#### Aaron Pope receives "Hero Award" from Main Street Alabama for establishment of Elba's Farmers Market



Aaron Pope

of Pope, Gavin Mauldin, Destiny Hudson, Laurie Chapman, Rory Vignola, and Sandy Bynum Williams for their outstanding efforts," said Sandy Williams, director of the Elba Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Elba. "A vibrant community is critical to a city's overall economic development as well as the quality of life for its residents, and we commend our Farmers Market Committee for being among the best in the state."

"It's an honor to recognize these outstanding community projects, leaders and volunteers," Wirth said. "The award winners represent the resiliency of downtown and commercial neighborhood districts in spite of a challenging year. Main Street programs were instrumental in helping small businesses navigate through closures due to the pandemic and helping them to reopen safely with outdoor eating options, hand sanitizing stations, foot door pulls, masks and more. The effort and leadership it takes to move these projects quickly is tremendous."

The Awards of Excellence Banquet is a highlight of LAB, a three-day conference that bolsters the efforts of communities participating in the nation-

ally acclaimed Main Street program or those communities interested in downtown revitalization. The eighth annual event drew over 150 community leaders from Alabama.

Main Street Alabama has 29 Designated Programs and over 30 Downtown Network Communities. Alexander City, Anniston, Athens,

Atmore, Birmingham's Historic 4th Ave Business District, Calera, Columbiana, Decatur, Dothan, Elba, Enterprise, Eufaula, Florence, Foley, Fort Payne, Gadsden, Headland, Heflin, Jasper, Marion, Monroeville, Montevallo, Opelika, Oxford, Scottsboro, South Huntsville, West Huntsville and Wetumpka each have Designated Programs and new communities will be added annually. Application workshops will be held in January for communities interested in becoming a Designated Program will be available in spring 2022. Until then, communities interested in downtown revitalization can participate in Main Street Alabama's Downtown Network.

Main Street Alabama focuses on bringing jobs, dollars and people back to Alabama's historic communities. Economic development is at the heart of our efforts to revitalize downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts.



**PROUD GRANDDAD!** Joshua Hovan, grandson of Jimmy Stevens, a Coffee County native and Elba High graduate, recently graduated from Auburn University. Joshua majored in Electrical Engineering and minored in Asian Studies (Japanese Language). He is staying at Auburn for graduate school specializing in Advance Computer Chip Design/Electrical Engineering. Joshua's parents are Cheryl & Ken Stevens-Hovan and his grandparents are Jimmy and Evelyn Stevens. Jimmy grew up in Zion Chapel, graduated from Elba High School, and graduated from Auburn in Civil Engineering. Jimmy has for many years lived and worked in the Huntsville, Ala. area, but maintained his Coffee County ties throughout those years. Granddad and grandson are pictured above...

#### APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC HOUSING AND SECTION 8

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8/26/-2tchg

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#### MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain Real Estate Mortgage executed by Jay Chamunda, LLC and Chetankumar Gohel, individual on January 13, 2012, said Mortgage being recorded January 18, 2013 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of COFFEE County, Alabama, in OFFREC Book 585, Page 230. Millennium Investment Group, LLC as Lender and Mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Coffee County Courthouse in Enterprise Alabama, on September 7, 2021, during the legal hours of sale, all of its right, title and interest in and to the following described real estate, situated in COFFEE County, Alabama, to-wit:

A 0.76 acre, more or less, parcel of land in the City of Enterprise, Alabama, being in and a part of the NE ¼ of SW ¼, Section 21, Township 4 North, Range 22 East, Coffee County, Alabama and being more particularly described as follows: Commence at a calculated point at the intersection of the southeast right-of-way (ROW) of Alabama Highway #27 (60' ROW) and the West ROW of Coffee County #706 (50' ROW) and run thence South 15 degrees 04 minutes 48 seconds East 30.00 feet along said #706 to an existing ½" pipe and the Point of Beginning.

Thence continue along said #706 South 15 degrees 04 minutes 48 seconds East 203.94 feet to a set 5/8" rebar (Cap #CA0642); thence South 76 degrees 58 minutes 33 seconds West 181.43 feet to a set 5/8" rebar (Cap #CA0642); thence North 49 degrees 04 minutes 41 seconds West 87.13 feet to a set 5/8" rebar (Cap #CA0642) at the southeast ROW of Alabama Highway #27 (60' ROW); thence North 40 degrees 55 minutes 19 seconds East 247.50 feet along said southeast ROW to an existing ½" rebar (Cap #CA0065) at the beginning of a 30 foot flare; thence South 77 degrees 06 minutes 14 seconds East 28.14 feet along the said flare to the Point of Beginning. Property street address: 640 Bellwood Road, Enterprise, AL 36330

THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON AN "AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS", SUBJECT TO ANY EASEMENTS, ENCUMBRANCES, AND EXCEPTIONS REFLECTED IN THE MORTGAGE AND THOSE CONTAINED IN THE RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF THE JUDGE OF PROBATE OF THE COUNTY WHERE THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS SITUATED. THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD WITHOUT WARRANTY OR RESCOURSE, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED AS TO TITLE, USE AND/OR ENJOYMENT AND WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION OF ALL PARTIES ENTITLED THERETO.

The sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the real estate.

This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation; contact Massey, Stotser & Nichols, PC at the telephone number shown below prior to attendance at sale. Stephanie Lanier Weems MASSEY, STOTSER, & NICHOLS, P.C. 1780 Gadsden Highway BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35235 As Attorney for Millennium Investment Group, LLC (205) 838-9000 8/12, 19, 26-chg

#### TLED THERETO.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

Case Number: PC 2021-063

NOTICE TO CREDITORS TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Flora Merle Harrell, as Executrix of the Estate of Robert Edward Harrell, deceased, on the 10th day of August 2021, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of Probate for Coffee County, Alabama-Elba Division.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

/s/ Flora Merle Harrell, Flora Merle Harrell, Executrix of the Estate of Robert Edward Harrell, dec.

Major cities with the lowest unemployment rates are Homewood at 1.8%, Vestavia Hills at 2.1%, and Hoover and Madison at 2.2%. Major cities with the highest unemployment rates are Selma at 9.4%, Prichard at 8.1%, and Anniston 6.2%. Coffee County's rate is at 2.8 percent, according to the information released last Friday.

#### Governor Ivey announces Alabama's July unemployment rate is 3.2 percent

Governor Kay Ivey and Alabama Department of Labor Secretary Fitzgerald Washington announced Friday, Aug. 20, that Alabama's preliminary, seasonally adjusted July 2021 unemployment rate is 3.2%, down from June's rate of 3.3%, and well below July 2020's rate of 7.4%.

July's rate represents 71,627 unemployed persons, compared to 73,769 in June and 165,510 in July 2020. Alabama remains below the July national rate of 5.4%.

"Each month we edge closer and closer to our pre-pandemic unemployment rate," said Governor Kay Ivey. "Employers have added over 73,000 jobs in the past year, and nearly 83,000 more people are working today than they were last year. Industries that were hit the hardest are seeing employment numbers increase monthly. We'll keep working as hard as we can to continue this remarkable progress."

In July, 2,138,925 people were counted as employed, up 82,577 from July 2020. Over the year, wage and salary employment increased 73,100 with the biggest gains seen in leisure and hospitality (+25,400), manufacturing (+11,900), and education and health services (+10,700), among others. Annual losses were seen in construction and mining and logging.

"The Alabama Career Center System continues to connect employers and job seekers through local and regional job fairs. These collaborative community events are targeting industry sectors that still need employees and job seekers looking for new or better opportunities," said Washington. "Those sectors, along with wages, are hitting new record highs. The average weekly wage for the private sector was

up a whopping \$64.16 over the year."

Total private average weekly earnings measured \$986.29 in July, a new record high. This represents a yearly increase of \$64.16 and a monthly increase of \$20.46. Additionally, the leisure and hospitality sector hit a new record high, with weekly wages rising to \$402.98, up \$51.56 over the year, and \$13.37 over the month.

Counties with the lowest unemployment rates are Shelby County at 2.1%, Blount County at 2.2%, and Cullman and Marshall Counties at 2.3%. Counties with the highest unemployment rates are Wilcox County at 11.2%, Lowndes County at 9.7%, and Perry County at 9.4%.

Landmark Park to host Bluegrass Festival on Sept. 11th

Landmark Park in Dothan, Ala., will host a Bluegrass Festival on Saturday, Sept. 11, from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m.

Visit the park for live music all day from The Byrd Family, Cedar Creek, Southern Gentleman, Benton Brothers and Company, and East Wind Bluegrass Band. Plus instrument demos, food trucks, kids activities, vendors and more.

Admission is \$10 for adults; \$8 for seniors and military; \$4 for kids; free for park members and children 2 and under. Bring those lawn chairs. Admission includes a wristband for re-entry.

Landmark Park is located at 430

Landmark Dr. in Dothan, just three miles north of Dothan's Ross Clark Circle. For more information, call 334-794-3452 or visit [www.landmarkpark-dothan.com](http://www.landmarkpark-dothan.com). Regular daily admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for kids and free for park members and children 2 and under.

On Saturday, Sept. 25, from 5-8 p.m., Landmark Park will host a Peanut Boil. Bring a picnic and lawn chairs for an after-hours peanut boil. Watch as peanuts are stacked the old fashioned way and listen to bluegrass music.

Admission includes one free cup of boiled peanuts. \$5 for adults, \$4 for kids, free for park members and children 2 and under.

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## SPORTS NEWS

## Views From

## The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

*Our grandson Lawson has really enjoyed* his first couple of weeks at school and one day last week proudly reported all high marks on his progress report. He is in the fifth grade and has enjoyed all his many days inside the 'ole school house, and hopefully this year will be his best yet.

## For what it is worth....

\*\*\* *The Elba Tigers scored on their first six* offensive possessions in a season opening 41-14 win over the Daleville Warhawks. The Warhawks got everyone's attention with a 10-minute scoring drive on the game's opening possession, but once the Tigers got the ball it was obvious they had way too much speed for the youthful 'Hawks and scored almost at will in the third quarter to take complete command. While Elba rolled up 400 yards in total offense, the star of the night had to be freshman speedster Alvin Henderson, who rushed for 157 yards and two touchdowns and also pulled in a 27-yard td pass. Over on defense the Tigers gave up some yards at times, but held the Warhawks to only one touchdown on four trips inside the 10-yardline, and showed strength at the line of scrimmage and speed on the corners. We'll let the coaches worry about the mistakes; it was a good win on the road.

\*\*\* *New Brockton and Kinston both kicked off* their regular seasons last week and the two area teams had mixed results. The Gamecocks scored on the game's first play from scrimmage and never looked back to post a big 33-14 win over Cottonwood in their first home game in two years, while the Bulldogs battled for all four quarters in a 42-19 loss to 3A Houston Academy in a game that should make the 'Dogs better in weeks to come.

\*\*\* *It was a wild week across the state* as 16 ranked teams dropped their season openers, but the wildest game was no doubt played down in Mobile where 5A Pike Road outscored 6A McGill-Toolen 76-51. Pike Road played the game without its 4-Star running back due to an injury, but the starting quarterback stepped up and rushed for 307 yards and 5 touchdowns and completed 5 of 6 passes for 219 yards and 3 touchdowns to help his team roll to the big win. Montgomery's new football power scored 11 touchdowns in the game, with four touchdown runs over 50 yards, three touchdown passes over 50 yards and a 90-yard kickoff return. The score was 36-16 after one quarter, 55-30 at the half and 69-44 heading into the fourth quarter. Wow!

*In other week # 1 action*, Dothan outscored Bob Jones 42-32 to kick off the season with a bang, Rehobeth hammered Providence Christian 34-7, Straughn had no trouble in pounding Pleasant Home 42-6, Arifton made a statement with a 38-27 win over 4A Dale County, Enterprise raced up and down its new turf field in a 57-21 win over Bay, Wicksburg embarrassed youthful Headland 53-7, Andalusia surprised second-ranked Faith 21-20, Luverne rolled over J.U. Blacksher 34-7, Eufaula strolled past Carroll 40-8, Houston County made some noise in a 19-13 win over Northside Methodist, and Samson edged past Marengo 12-6 in a game without its head coach, who was quarantined.

*Many of the top teams* in the preseason sportswriter's poll may make an early exit from the statewide standings as a total of sixteen teams dropped their season openers. In Class 1A, Decatur Heritage lost to Falkville 34-20, while in Class 2A top-ranked Mars Hill was no match in a 35-6 loss to 6A Jasper, and in Class 3A #4 Hillcrest lost to Greenville 10-8 and #8 Ohatchee lost to Cleburne County 43-28. Class 4A had two teams bumped off as Madison Academy lost to Briarwood 41-17 and #10 Etowah lost to Gadsden City 34-0. Four ranked teams in Class 5A fell to defeat as #1 St. Paul's was downed by McAdory 21-7.

#2 Faith lost to Andalusia 21-20, #5 Guntersville was clobbered by Handley 55-21 and #8 UMS-Wright was blanked by Baker 13-0. It was no better in Class 6A, where five ranked teams lost their openers as #1 Pinson Valley lost to Hewitt-Trussville 49-27, #4 Opelika lost to Calloway 30-21, #6 Hillcrest Tuscaloosa lost to Homewood 37-34, #7 McGill-Toolen was whipped by Pike Road 76-51 and #10 Oxford fell to Thompson 5-0. In Class 7A, the only ranked team to lose was Austin, which lost to Hartselle 29-0.

\*\*\* *Ye Ole Polish Prognosticator* dropped by over the weekend and said many of the folks in the area got lucky that the heavy rains on Friday came early in the afternoon and left before the high school football games kicked off. The local guesspert hit on 15 of his 16 picks last week to start with a bang, but just laughed when asked if that meant a perfect week was in the cards. Anyway, here is this week's fearless forecast....

## ELBA VS. OPP

The Pea River felines will be back at home this week, but will have to share the yard with a litter of short tailed kitties from just down the four lane. The felines may not be as big as their visitors and may not be favored by most football fans, but I have already seen them run and believe their speed may be the difference as they try to pull off an upset.

## ELBA 32 OPP 28

## KINSTON VS. ZION CHAPEL

The bulldogs from down near the county line didn't get to attend the victory party planned after the game last week near the pound, but have rescheduled another party for this weekend and are convinced they will be the featured guests. The troops from up at Fort Jack will be hungry after a few hours of butting heads, but this week they may be the ones to go home without supper.

## KINSTON 35 ZION CHAPEL 2

## 86th meeting

## Tigers renew rivalry with Bobcats

The Elba Tigers will renew their oldest football rivalry Friday night when they host the Opp Bobcats, at Mack Wood Field.

The two longtime rivals will be meeting for the 86th time, and while the Bobcats lead the series 44-41, the Tigers have won four straight and last season posted a 26-20 win.

"We know the level of completion will be much higher this week against Opp and know it will be a four quarter battle between two rivals that are only twenty miles apart," said Elba coach Marc Sieving. "Opp is always a well-coached team filled with quality athletes and this year will be no different. We know they will be physical at the line of scrimmage, will have a lot of weapons on offense and will have a lot of players that love to hit on defense. When Elba and Opp get together you know what kind of game it will be."

Opp was scheduled to open its season last week against 4A Geneva, but posted a win without even having to pull on the pads as Geneva was forced to forfeit due to multiple players in quarantine.

Opp Bobcat football legend Mike Dubose will be the new head coach after two years as the defensive coordinator, and pumps new life into an already talented den of Bobcats. Junior quarterback Gray Jennings (6-1, 180) will lead the Opp offense, and will get plenty of help from junior running back Terry Davis (5-10, 170) junior speedster DaDa Stoudemire (5-10, 165), and four returning starters in the offensive line. Over on defense, Tanner Hall (6-0, 180) and all-state performer Cole Jennings (6-2, 200) will deliver the knockout punch from linebacker, and are just two of 10 returning starters.

"We know Opp wanted to play last week," added

Sieving, "but by sitting the week out it gave them a chance to watch us and finalize a game plan, while we will go into the game kind of blind in that we will have to prepare for what they did last season. Last week we had a plan and had to make adjustments as the game went on, and that will be the case again this week. Our main concern is always us, and we work hard every day at practice making us the best team we can be. We feel like if we do our jobs and play our best we are a very good team, and this week we will have to be at our best against Opp."

The Tigers will be coming off a big 41-14 win over 3A Daleville, and in the win the Elba offense rolled up 400 yards in offense on just 22 snaps, led by freshman Alvin Henderson with 157 yards rushing, 27 yards in receptions and three total touchdowns, while JT Coleman and Chrystyle Caldwell combined for 112

rushing yards and two td's. The Elba defense had its backs to the wall four times in the game with Daleville having the ball first and goal, but allowed only one score and led by Chrystyle Caldwell and Roland Safford played physical at the line of scrimmage.

"We were happy to come home with the win and it was good to get in as many players as we did in the opening week of the season," added Sieving. "The offense scored on its first six possessions and it was a combination of the backs running hard and the line doing its job at the line of scrimmage, while the defense battled hard against a physical team and never backed down. It was a challenge, but our players came through and it is always great to win. We did make some mistakes, obviously, but we work to correct mistakes every day at practice and will work to cut on the mistakes."

## NEW BROCKTON VS. GEORGIANA

The roosters from over near the bypass could be heard crowing all weekend long after opening the season with a resounding win, and this week are planning more of the same as they set a trap for a litter of kitties expected to come over for a visit late Friday afternoon. I bet the folks over in 'Brockton will learn to love the sound.

## NEW BROCKTON 40 GEORGIANA 18

## BRANTLEY VS. LUVERNE

The bulldogs from up over the creek will make the short hike up the highway to visit a litter of kitties that are still mad after taking a whipping a year ago. While the kitties will be on their home field, the guess here is that the dogs will enjoy the trip back home.

## BRANTLEY 27 LUVERNE 14

## OTHER PICKS:

McKenzie 27 Marengo 16  
Straughn 42 Red Level 6  
Arifton 48 Goshen 12  
Samson 20 Cottonwood 18  
Wicksburg 34 Geneva County 33  
Floral 32 Houston County 20  
Bayside 31 Houston Academy 21  
Slocumb 27 Geneva 21  
Hillcrest 36 Pike County 0  
Rehobeth 41 Ashford 13  
Dale County 40 Daleville 16  
Alabama Christian 17 Highland Home 14  
Catholic 24 Charles Henderson 14  
Abbeville 38 Headland 20  
Pike Road 60 Calhoun 0  
Russell County 56 Barbour County 0  
Fairhope 17 Andalusia 14  
Central PC 28 Eufaula 24  
Dothan 48 Park Crossing 0  
Enterprise 42 Carver 12

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- Human papillomavirus
- Meningococcal disease
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## Rebels visit Kinston

## All area teams swing into action in week #2

The high school football season will kick off week #2 on Friday night and for area teams the second week of action will bring with it a pair of heated rivalries.

Following is a preview of this week's area games: **Georgiana at New Brockton**

The New Brockton Gamecocks will be inside the friendly confines of Gamecock Stadium on Friday night when they host the Georgiana Panthers.

The matchup will be the 12th all-time between the two teams, and while the Gamecocks hold a slim 6-5 series edge, the Panthers have won three of the last four contests and won the last game 41-6 in 2017.

The Gamecocks opened the season with an impressive 33-14 win over Cottonwood in a game in which Kaden Cupp scored on the first play of the game to set the tone, while the Panthers lost to 2A power Lanett 54-7 in the debut of their new coach.

## Zion Chapel at Kinston

The Kinston Bulldogs will be at home for the second straight week on Friday night when they host the Zion Chapel

Rebels, in the renewal of a cross-county rivalry. The meeting will be the 47th between the county rivals, and while the Rebels own a 25-21 series edge, the Bulldogs have won five of the last eight contests, including a 40-26 win a year ago.

Zion Chapel was scheduled to meet Floral 4 last week in a jamboree, but the game was called off due to COVID concerns. The Rebels are expected to be led on both sides of the ball by the big men up front, including Paden Boothe (225), Shaun Smith (180), Connor Strickland (245), Hayden Walden (290) and Tristan Huggins (195).

Kinston battled 3A Houston Academy for even terms for most of the first half in a disappointing 42-19 loss, but new quarterback Cale Sumblin had a big night both running and passing and made it clear the Bulldogs will be a bigger threat on offense this season.

## Brantley at Luverne

The Brantley Bulldogs will renew their oldest football rivalry on Friday night when they hit the

road for a cross-county clash against the Luverne Tigers.

The matchup will be the 89th between the Crenshaw County rivals, with the Tigers holding a 55-30-3 series edge. The Bulldogs posted a lopsided 49-0 win

## Jr. High and JV teams also in action

## Fifth ranked Kinston Lady Bulldogs open volleyball season with win over Brantley

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs opened the 2021 volleyball season Thursday, Aug. 19, with a match against the Brantley Lady Bulldogs.

Kinston's Jr. High team came up short in their match, losing to Brantley in two sets 22-25 and 19-25. During the match, Taylor McKinney had one ace on seven serves for Kinston. Other team leaders were Brynne Kelley with four hits, Chloe Phillips with eight assists, and Lilli Sumblin with 18 passes.

The Junior Varsity team won their match over Brantley 25-23 and 25-15 in two sets. Team leaders were Baylee Smith with seven hits, 18 serves, and 14 passes; Claire Whigham with 11 assists and eight serves; and Sage Beck with

eight serves.

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs varsity team opened the season ranked fifth in Class 1A, and they walked away from the first match with a big win over Brantley. Kinston won in three sets, 25-23, 25-18, and 25-7.

Faith Peters had 24 hits and three blocks in the match while Claire McReynolds had 18 assists and 27 passes. Also, Sydney Smith had 15 serves with 15 aces in the match.

Upcoming matches for the Kinston Lady Bulldogs include hosting the Zion Chapel Lady Rebels on Thursday, Aug. 26 [all three teams will be in action beginning at 4 p.m.]; and traveling to Pleasant Home on Tuesday, Aug. 31 [all three teams in action beginning at 4 p.m.].

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# SPORTS NEWS

In season opener

## Tigers claw Warhawks 41-14

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor  
Photos by BC Sports Photography

The Elba Tigers exploded for four touchdowns over a span of just six offensive plays in a wild third quarter to pull away and never looked back as they claimed an impressive 41-14 win over the Daleville Warhawks, Friday night in Daleville.

Daleville received the opening kickoff and promptly headed down the field on an 18-play drive that ate up over ten minutes off the clock and resulted in the first points of the night. Jeremiah Moore rushed for 28 yards on seven carries and Omarion Pinckney added 20 rushing yards on six carries to lead the Warhawks down the field, and it was the same combo that produced the points on a 3-yard pass from Pinckney to Moore. A two-point pass attempt failed to add to the lead, but with just 1:45 left in the opening quarter Daleville was on top 6-0.

Elba began its initial possession at its own 13-yardline and overcame 25 yards in penalties to go 87 yards and get on the scoreboard. A 13-yard run by JT Coleman and a 25-yard scamper by Alvin Henderson helped the Tigers overcome the penalty flags, while the score came on a swing pass from Brayden Johnson to Henderson that turned into a 27-yard touchdown toss. Alex Wisecup added the extra-point, and with 10:17 left in the second quarter Elba was on top 7-6.

Daleville threatened midway through the quarter after recovering a fumble when a short punt bounced off the leg of a Tiger blocker, and the Warhawks quickly moved to a first and goal at the 10-yardline. A big defensive play by Elba's Byron Burks on third down resulted in a 7-yard loss, and when a fourth down pass missed its target the Tigers had survived the threat and were still on top 7-6.

Elba huddled in its own endzone after the defensive stand, but needed only three plays to add to its lead as Alvin Henderson got the call on three straight plays and reeled off runs of 17, 5 and 68 yards to score his second touchdown of the half. Wisecup booted the extra-point, and with 2:07 left in the half the Tigers lead was up to 14-6.

Daleville seemed content to run out the clock on its ensuing possession, but Jeremiah Moore broke loose on a 48-yard scamper and with 18-seconds left on the clock the Warhawks were right back in business at the Elba 9-yardline. A second down keeper by quarterback Omarion Pinckney moved the ball to the two-yardline. However, the horn sounded before



**FABULOUS FRESHMAN....** Elba Tiger Alvin Henderson (6) is off and running for one of his three touchdowns in last week's 41-14 win over Daleville. Henderson rushed for 157 yards and two td's and caught a 27-yard td pass in the season opening win.

the 'Hawks could get off another play as the Tigers carried the 14-6 lead in at intermission.

Elba received the second half kickoff and after a 29-yard return by Chrystyle Caldwell needed only one play to build on its lead. Caldwell took a direct snap on the first play of the possession and rambled 46 yards for a touchdown, and while a low snap foiled the extra-point try, the Tigers lead was up to 20-6 with 11:39 remaining in the third quarter.

Elba got the ball back at the Daleville 30-yardline after a low snap on a punt attempt resulted in a change of possession, and the Tigers again needed only one play to find the endzone as Brayden Johnson lofted a pass over the Daleville defense that landed in the arms of Peyton McCart for a 30-yard touchdown toss. Wisecup kicked the extra-point, and with 9:22 left in the quarter Elba was on top 27-6.

A 62-yard kickoff return set the Warhawks up at the Elba 35-yardline to begin their ensuing series, and after seven running plays the 'Hawks found themselves with a first and goal at the 10-yardline. Daleville got as close as the five after a run by Moore, but the Elba defense was again up to the task and turned Daleville away empty handed to maintain the 27-6 lead.

A 55-yard scamper by Byron Burks on first down quickly moved the Tigers across midfield, and on the next play Alvin Henderson took a direct snap, spotted a hole at the line of scrimmage and raced untouched 35 yards for a touchdown. A

low snap foiled the extra-point try, but with 3:29 left in the quarter Elba had taken a commanding 33-6 advantage.

Elba added two points to their total when a bad snap on a punt attempt resulted in a safety, and after the ensuing free kick the Tigers again needed only two plays to reach the endzone. JT Coleman got the call on both plays and rushed for 25 and 15 yards, with the 15-yard dash going for a touchdown. The extra-point attempt failed, but with 1:33 still left in the wild third quarter the Tigers were in complete command with a 41-6 lead.

Elba emptied its bench following the fourth touchdown of the quarter, and Daleville took advantage of the Tiger reserves to score a touchdown on a 32-yard run by Omarion Pinckney with 7:14 left in the fourth quarter. Pinckney passed to Jeremiah Moore for the two-point conversion, and when the clock reached zero moments later the Tigers left the field with

the big 41-14 road win.

Freshman Alvin Henderson rushed for 157 yards and two touchdowns and caught one pass for 27 yards and a touchdown to spark the Elba offense, while Byron Burks added 68 yards on two carries, Chrystyle Caldwell added 59 yards and one td on two carries, JT Coleman added 53 yards and one td on four carries, and Brayden Johnson completed both his pass attempts for 57 yards and two touchdowns.

Chrystyle Caldwell had 8 tackles, including a tackle for as safety, to lead the Elba defense, while Roland Safford also recorded 8 tackles, Byron Burks had 6 stops, and Peyton McCart and Carson Wise had 5 tackles, apiece.

Omarion Pinckney rushed for 114 yards and one touchdown on 20 carries and completed 3 of 1 passes for 33 yards and one td to lead the Daleville offense, while Jeremiah Moore added 85 yards rushing on 17 carries and caught three passes for 33 yards and one td.

### The yardstick....

EL		DV
12	1st Downs	11
20-343	Rushes-Yds.	48-216
57	Passing Yds.	33
400	Total Offense	249
2-2-0	Passes	3-11-0
1/1	Fumbles/Lost	5/0
1-30	Punts-Ave.	2-24
4-30	Penalties-Yds.	3-15



Elba Tiger head coach Marc Sieving watches as his Tigers begin to pull away in the third quarter in last week's 41-14 romp over Daleville.

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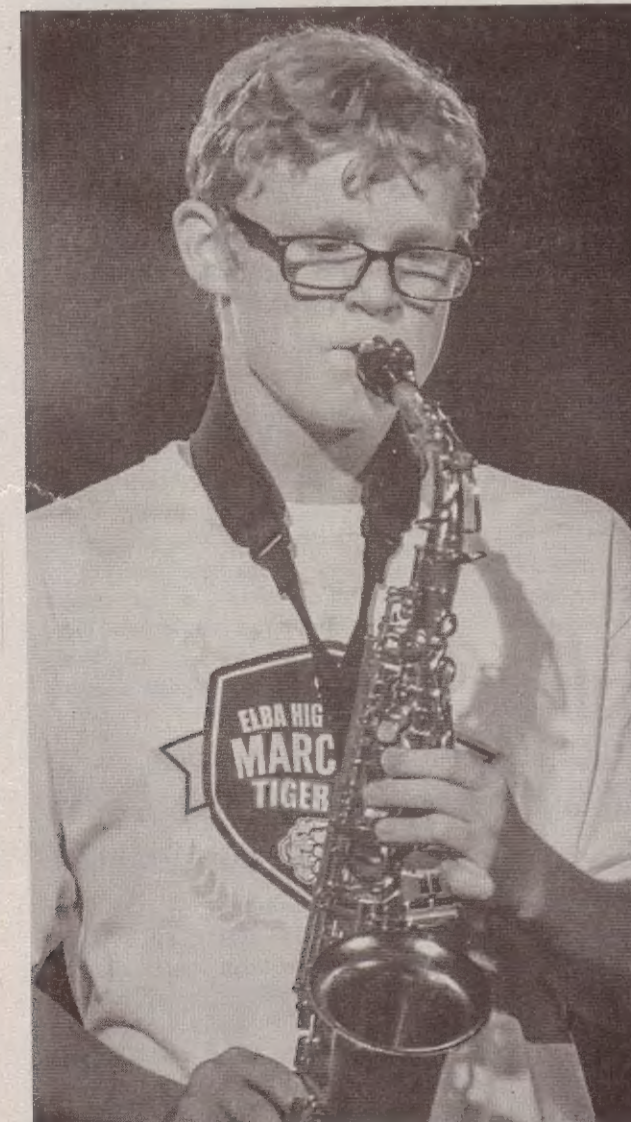
**The Class 2A Elba Tigers will host the  
Class 3A Opp Bobcats this Friday night,  
Aug. 27, at Tiger Stadium in Elba!  
Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.**



**TIGER TOUCHDOWN!** An Elba Tiger fan helps the refs signal for a touchdown in last week's 41-14 season opening win over Daleville.




Elba Tiger Chrystyle Caldwell (44) eyes a defender as he heads upfield in last week's big win over Daleville.



Elba Marching Tiger Band made its initial performance of the season Friday night in Daleville.

Elba Chamber of Commerce temporarily located in an office at Moseley Photography, located on Factory Avenue!



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## SPORTS NEWS

## 'Brockton batters Bears 33-14

Statistics by Brandon Speedy White  
Photos by Greg Brunson



New Brockton Gamecock Kaden Cupp (18) is off and running on a 60-yard touchdown gallop on the first play from scrimmage in last week's 33-14 win over Cottonwood.



New Brockton Gamecock band took the field for a halftime performance at last week's season opening game against Cottonwood.



Kinston Bulldog Jeb Crosby (1) eyes a Raider defender as he heads upfield in action at last week's season opening game. Kinston will host Zion Chapel this week.

The New Brockton Gamecocks held an early homecoming celebration Friday night at the newly renovated Gamecock Stadium with a solid 33-14 win over the Cottonwood Bears.

New Brockton received the opening kick and wasted little time getting on the scoreboard as on the first play from scrimmage Kaden Cupp kept on a quarterback option and raced 60 yards for a touchdown. The extra-point try failed, but with only 18-seconds gone off the clock the Gamecocks were already on the scoreboard with a 6-0 lead.

The Gamecocks added to their lead later in the quarter as the trio of Kaden Cupp, Drew Cashin and Jordan Tacey took turns butting heads with the Bears defense. Cupp had a 20-yard run and Cashin broke loose on a 27-yard scamper, while Tacey scored the second Gamecock touchdown of the quarter on a 1-yard blast as New Brockton stretched its lead to 12-0 with 7:16 still remaining in the first quarter.

Cottonwood got on the scoreboard early in the second quarter on a 1-yard run by Artavious Shipmon, and the Bears added a two-point conversion to pull within 12-8 with 9:43 left in the quarter. However, the Gamecocks had a quick answer and behind the running of Kaden Cupp and Jamarcus Brown regained command.

Brown rushed for 25 yards on five carries and Cupp added 14 yards on four totes, and it was Cupp that crossed the goal line on a 1-yard run. The extra-point try was successful, and with 5:20 remaining in the half the Gamecocks were back in charge with a 19-8 lead.

Cottonwood received the second half kickoff and marched down the field to get back in the game. Artavious Shipmon rushed for 38 yards on five carries and scored the Bears touchdown on a 5-yard run to cut the New Brockton lead to 19-14 with 8:22 remaining in the third quarter.

New Brockton turned the ball over on its next series, but regained possession on a defensive stop near midfield and cashed in the short field to increase its lead. A 13-yard pass from Kaden Cupp to Matthew Smith was a key play early in the scoring drive, while Cupp added 15 yards rushing on just two carries and Jamarcus Brown added 16 rushing yards on three carries, and capped the drive with a 2-yard scoring run as the Gamecocks lead grew to 25-14 with 9:02 left in the fourth quarter.

New Brockton got another stop midway through the



New Brockton Gamecock Jaxon Whitworth (20) eyes room to run in last week's season opening win over Cottonwood.

quarter and again took advantage of a short field as it scored the final points of the game. Jordan Tacey scored the touchdown on an 18-yard dash, and Kaden Cupp added a two-point run as the Gamecocks put the finishing touches on the 33-14 win.

Kaden Cupp rushed for 128 yards and two touchdowns on 11 carries and completed 3 of 4 passes for 38 yards to spark the Gamecock offense, while Jamarcus Brown added 86 yards on the ground and one td on 12 carries, and Jordan Tacey rushed for 24 yards on five carries and scored a pair of touchdowns.

The Gamecock defense was paced by Drew Cashin with 9 stops, including two tackles for losses and a fumble recovery, while Tre Boland and Kaden Cupp both had 6 stops.

## Kinston drops opener to Raiders 42-19

Statistics by Dicky Adcock  
Photos by Linda Hodge

The Kinston Bulldogs hosted the 3A Houston Academy Raiders Friday night in their season opener and battled on even terms for much of the first half before watching the Raiders pull away in the final two quarters in a 42-19 loss, at Bulldog Stadium.

Kinston received the opening kickoff and wasted little time getting on the scoreboard as the Bulldogs went 80 yards in eight plays to grab an early lead. A 20-yard third down pass from Cale Sumblin to Blake Senn kept the drive alive early, while the score came when Sumblin and Jeb Crosby connected on a 42-yard touchdown toss. John Free booted the extra-point, and with 7:36 left in the opening quarter the Bulldogs were on top 7-0.

Houston Academy had an answer for the Kinston score and took the ensuing kick and went 67 yards in 11 plays to pull even. Jeb Daughtry rushed for 22 yards on five carries to help lead the Raiders down the field, while the score came on a 2-yard pass from Kady Mitchell to Kamryn Mitchell. Gregory Sexton added the extra-point, and with 1:49 left in the quarter the score was tied at 7-7.

The Raiders regained possession near midfield on a Bulldog fumble and cashed in the turnover five plays later when Kady Mitchell capped the 47-yard scoring drive with a 5-yard touchdown run. The extra-point failed, but Houston Academy had taken the lead at 13-7 with 9:18 remaining in the second quarter.

Kinston's Blake Senn picked off a Raider pass to stop the next Houston Academy threat, and came up with his second interception of the quarter only moments later and this time returned the interception 29 yards for a Bulldog touchdown. The extra-point try failed, but with 4:47 left in the quarter Kinston had caught the Raiders at 13-13.

Houston Academy regained the lead on its ensuing possession as the Raiders went 61 yards in eight plays to get back into the endzone. Kady Mitchell rushed for 21 yards on three carries and capped the drive with a 47-yard touchdown pass to Kamryn Mitchell, while Charles Knowles ran in a two-point conversion to put the Raiders back on top 21-13 with just 29-seconds left in the half.

Houston Academy added to its lead on its second series of the third quarter when the Raiders went 88 yards in seven plays. Jeb Daughtry rushed for 65 yards on five carries and scored the Raider touchdown on a 33-yard gallop, while Gregory Sexton kicked the extra-point to push the Houston Academy lead to 28-13 with 4:39 left in the quarter.

The Raiders regained possession at their own 40-yardline after a Kinston punt and this time went 60 yards in just four plays to blow the game open. Kady Mitchell capped



Kinston Bulldog Cale Sumblin (17) heads upfield for a big gain in last week's season opener against Hosout Academy. Sumblin rushed for 67 yards and one touchdown in the game.

the scoring drive with a 30-yard touchdown toss to Will Wells, and Sexton again added the extra-point as the Raiders lead grew to 35-13 with 3-seconds remaining in the quarter.

Blake Senn's third interception of the night set the Bulldogs up at their own 33-yardline early in the fourth quarter, and Kinston promptly marched 67 yards in 11 plays to get back on the board. Cale Sumblin rushed six times for 37 yards to lead the Bulldogs down the field, and scored the touchdown on a 4-yard blast off tackle. A two-point pass missed its target, but with 5:14 left in the quarter the Bulldogs had cut the Raiders lead to 35-19.

Houston Academy began its ensuing series at midfield after an unsuccessful on-sides kick attempt and covered the distance to the endzone in five running plays to score the game's final points. Brady Whigham capped the scoring drive with a 7-yard td jaunt, and Sexton added the extra-point as the Raiders closed out the 42-19 win.

Cale Sumblin rushed for 67 yards and one touchdown on 15 carries and completed 8 of 16 passes for 91 yards and one td to lead the Kinston offense, while Jeb Crosby pulled in 4 catches for 58 yards and one td, and Blake Senn led the defense with three interceptions.

Jeb Daughtry rushed for 145 yards and one td on 9 carries to lead the Houston Academy ground game, while Kady Mitchell rushed for 34 yards on 10 carries and completed 8 of 13 passes for 158 yards and 3 td's.



Kinston Bulldog cheerleader Rachel Hall keeps the fans fired up as the Bulldogs battle Houston Academy in last week's season opener.

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**The Kinston Bulldogs will**  
**host the Zion Chapel Rebels**  
**Friday Night, Aug. 27,**  
**at Bulldog Stadium, in Kinston**  
**Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.**

SPORTS NEWS

ELBA TIGERS

Junior Varsity Football

Aug. 30	Pike County	Away
Sept. 7	Pike County	Home
Sept. 13	Highland Home	Away
Sept. 20	Luverne	Home
Sept. 27	Zion Chapel	Home
Oct. 4	Ariton	Home
Oct. 12	G.W. Long	Away

(All games start at 6:00 pm)

Elba Tigers JV ready to hit the field for a busy season

The Elba Tigers junior varsity football team will kick off its season on Monday, Aug. 30, and expectations are high as the Tigers look to continue their success on the gridiron. "We are all excited about this group of young athletes and we are excited about the upcoming season," stated Elba Tiger athletic director/head varsity coach Marc Sieving. "Coach Johnson has done a great job working with the junior varsity for a long time and this year it looks like he has a really good group of players. The number of players is up from year past and that is good news for the junior varsity program and the entire varsity program. It will be an exciting season with a total of seven games and I urge everyone to come out and support this team."

High School

VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

Thursday, Aug. 26  
Elba at Luverne  
New Brockton at Geneva  
Zion Chapel at Kinston  
Goshen at Brantley

Home  
Zion Chapel at Ch. Henderson

Thursday, Sept. 2  
New Brockton at Wicksburg  
Ariton at Zion Chapel

Monday, Aug. 3  
Elba Jr. at Coppinville  
Ariton at New Brockton  
Samson at Zion Chapel

Tuesday, Aug. 31  
New Brockton at Brantley  
Kinston at Pleasant

Support your favorite teams with your attendance...  
LET'EM HEAR YOU CHEER!!

Kinston wins annual Amelia Rhoades Set-Off Volleyball Tourney

The 37th annual Amelia Rhoades Set-Off Volleyball Tournament was held Saturday, Aug. 21, at Kinston High School, and the host team, the Kinston Lady Bulldogs, went undefeated to claim the tournament championship.

There were eight teams in the event - Kinston, Brantley, New Brockton, Samson, Opp, Geneva, Goshen and Straughn. The state ranked Kinston team [#5 in Class 1A] went 6-0 in the tournament with wins over New Brockton, Samson, Brantley, Geneva, and Straughn to claim the championship.

The tourney began with "Pool" play.

In Pool 1, Kinston defeated New Brockton in two sets, 26-24 and 25-8; Brantley defeated Samson in two sets, 25-15 and 25-13; Kinston defeated Brantley, 25-16 and 25-15; New Brockton defeated Samson in three sets, 25-18, 17-25, and 15-9; Kinston defeated Samson in two sets, 25-20 and 25-10, and Brantley defeated New Brockton in two sets 36-24 and 26-24. Kinston was the Pool 1 winner with Brantley claiming the Pool 1 runner up spot. These two teams advanced to the semi-finals.

In Pool 2, Geneva defeated



The Kinston Lady Bulldogs celebrate winning the 37th annual Amelia Rhoades Set-Off Volleyball Tournament held Saturday, Aug. 21, in Kinston. Pictured: (front row) Coach Suzanne Elmore, Blair Wyrosdick, Griffin Holley, Madison Moore, Sydney Smith, Faith Peters, and Luz Santana; (back row) Amelia Rhoades, Ella Nicometo, Abbie Green, Rachel Hall, Claire McReynolds, Danielle Cain, Madison Lolley, Cameran Whigham, Tiana Burbank, and Coach Tiffany Johnson

ed Opp in two sets, 25-18 and 25-17; Straughn defeated Goshen in two sets, 25-16 and 25-8; Geneva defeated Goshen in two sets, 25-10 and 25-21; Straughn defeated Opp in two sets, 25-21 and 25-20; Opp defeated Goshen in two sets, 25-9 and 25-13; and Straughn defeated Geneva in two sets, 25-15 and 25-14. Straughn was the Pool 2 winner and Geneva was the runner-up

allowing both these teams

to advance to semi-final play.

The semi-finals pitted the Kinston Lady Bulldogs against the Geneva Lady Panthers and the Straughn Lady Tigers against the Brantley Lady Bulldogs. The Kinston Lady Bulldogs beat Geneva in two sets 25-20 and 25-18 while in the other game Straughn defeated Brantley in two

sets, 25-19 and 25-19.

In the finals, the Lady Bulldogs from Kinston completed their tournament 'sweep' by defeated the Straughn Lady Tigers in two sets, 25-19 and 25-18. Throughout this tourney, Kinston was led by Claire McReynolds with 61 serves, 17 aces, and 102 assists and Faith Peters with 12 blocks, 65 hits, 130 kills and 76 passes.

Dove season expanded across the state

By DAVID RAINER  
Ala. Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources

A place to enjoy a quality dove hunt is a valuable commodity in Alabama. Finding a place to hunt doves is becoming increasingly more difficult, but the Alabama Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (WFF) Division is working to increase access, especially near population centers.

WFF looked at the opportunities it provides

for dove hunting on public land around the state and the demands hunters put on those areas. The staff decided to try to expand those areas, especially near metropolitan areas.

"We determined that we don't have enough opportunity for hunting doves on opening day, not enough opportunity spread around the state," said Seth Maddox, WFF's Migratory Gamebird Coordinator. "There is a study done by the Georgia DNR (Department of Natural Resources) that looked at this. It found that most hunters are willing to drive within an hour from their house to participate in a good quality dove hunt."

Maddox took maps of the 10 largest metro areas around the state and overlaid a 60-mile radius ring to find areas that would provide opportunities for hunting doves. WFF found the first of what they hope to be several areas that fit that bill. The first purchase was the 165-acre Prairie Glades Special Opportunity Area (SOA) in 2021.

"The Prairie Glades SOA is in the Black Belt Region with that fertile clay component in the soil," Maddox said. "It should be really good. There is lots of food out there for the birds. Closer to the season, we'll do some bushhogging and disking. It's a good place to have some dove hunters. It's easy to get to from Montgomery and even Birmingham. I think we'll have some keen interest this fall."

Registration for the limited quota dove hunts at Prairie Glades and Portland Landing SOAs will open on September 1. Visit [www.outdooralabama.com/hunting/special-opportunity-areas](http://www.outdooralabama.com/hunting/special-opportunity-areas) to find the link to register for the dove hunts, four at Prairie Glades and one at Portland Landing, and other hunting opportunities.

Maddox said WFF will also be looking for suitable property in southwest Alabama to expand the public's access to dove hunting.

"We're trying to find something in District 5 that is within an hour's drive of Mobile," he said. "That's the area where we're lacking most in public opportunity."

Maddox said dove hunting is still a huge tradition in Alabama even though the number of dove hunters has been slowly

declining since the '70s.

"We still have between 40,000 and 50,000 hunters participate in dove season in Alabama," he said. "We're one of the top 10 states in harvest each year. Being in the South, we don't have a lot of hunting early in the year like they do in northern states. Dove season is not as big a tradition in the northern states because they have other seasons opening up about the same time."

WFF conducted a hunter participation survey in 2018 and found that a majority of dove hunters in both zones wanted to open the seasons as early as possible.

For the 2021-2022 season, dove season in Alabama will open on September 4, the Saturday before Labor Day, in the North Zone. The South Zone opening day is September 11.

Under the federal guidelines, dove season can open as early as September 1, but that would fall on a Wednesday this year.

"Nobody wants to open in the middle of the week," Maddox said. "We want to provide the maximum opportunity to get out in the field and the maximum opportunity for harvest."

"We traditionally opened the second or third Saturday in September, but that was back when we had a 60-day season. We have 90 days now. The longer season and our different zones allow us to take advantage of the different crop harvests. Peanuts are harvested later in the south part of the state compared to corn in the north."

In terms of dove season zones, one big change is that Barbour County in southeast Alabama will be moving from the South Zone to the North Zone. Maddox said Barbour County had been in the South Zone during the 60-day season, which allowed those hunters to hunt the peanut harvest. With the 90-day season in the North Zone, Barbour County hunters can take advantage of early harvests and planting as well as the peanut harvest.

The South Zone now consists of Baldwin, Coffee, Covington, Dale, Escambia, Geneva, Henry, Houston and Mobile counties. The other 58 counties are in the North Zone.

Once again, WFF will hold its traditional youth dove hunts. Registration is underway for the 26 hunts

across the state. Visit [www.outdooralabama.com/youth-hunting/youth-dove-hunts](http://www.outdooralabama.com/youth-hunting/youth-dove-hunts) for a link to register and a schedule for the upcoming hunts. Youth hunters can register for only one dove hunt at a time. After that hunt concludes, the youth hunters can register for another hunt.

In other migratory bird news, goose regulations have changed for the 2021-2022 season with a change in the bag limit. Hunters will now be allowed to have five Canada in the aggregate dark goose (Canada, white-fronted, Brant) daily limit for the entire goose season. The first two segments of goose season are September 4-October 3 and October 16-30.

"This frees us up from having to have a special early goose season," Maddox said. "Instead of opening on September 1, we're going to open September 4. We're taking advantage of the resident Canada geese we have. We're also allowing more weekend opportunities during the season."

This year's special early teal season is scheduled from September 11-26 with a daily bag limit of six birds.

Maddox said during this early season, the teal that show up in Alabama are almost exclusively blue-winged teal. He also said hunters will have a hard time determining whether the birds are hens or drakes.

"The males won't be in their breeding plumage, so they won't have that blue-gray head with that crescent moon white patch," he said. "They are going to look like the females. You have to look at the wings to tell. Under the blue patch, there is a lot more white on the males. The females are speckled versus a full white patch. But they fly so fast that it's going to be difficult to tell."

"Some people ask why they're seeing all females. Well, they're not all females. Once you harvest the birds, you will be able to tell that you are shooting males and females."

Maddox is encouraged about the early-season prospects for Alabama hunters.

"I think it should be a good year," he said. "We've had lots of rain, so everything is green. There will be plenty of food on the landscape."

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